

Message

From: Payne, James [payne.james@epa.gov]
Sent: 7/11/2018 1:34:39 PM
To: Lee, Charles [Lee.Charles@epa.gov]
CC: Dunn, Alexandra [dunn.alexandra@epa.gov]; Hughes, Hayley [hughes.hayley@epa.gov]; Walts, Alan [walts.alan@epa.gov]; Wells, Sharon [Wells.Sharon@epa.gov]; Tejada, Matthew [Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: Pathway Forward for EJCRC's Focus on Lead and States

Nice, everybody - we like it!

Jim
Acting DRA
Region 5

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 11, 2018, at 7:28 AM, Lee, Charles <Lee.Charles@epa.gov> wrote:

Alex

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Regards
Charles

From: Dunn, Alexandra
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 7:51 AM
To: Lee, Charles <Lee.Charles@epa.gov>
Cc: Payne, James <payne.james@epa.gov>; Hughes, Hayley <hughes.hayley@epa.gov>; Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>; Wells, Sharon <Wells.Sharon@epa.gov>; Tejada, Matthew

<Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Pathway Forward for EJCRC's Focus on Lead and States

Charles,

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Sent from my iPhone

Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, J.D.
Regional Administrator
Region 1 New England
(617) 918-1012

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On Jul 10, 2018, at 5:50 PM, Lee, Charles <Lee.Charles@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Alex and Jim

Pursuant to our meeting, I had a great discussion with Hayley Hughes about coordinating our work and making sure that the Agency's efforts prioritize the most vulnerable communities. We should include Hayley in our future discussions. This will help us organize our thinking about how to move ahead on environmental justice work with states in the context of the Lead Strategy. It will also help us make sure we're taking one step at a time and not getting ahead of agency decisions or calls for action.

Because lead exposure is inherently an environmental justice issue, and because success in reducing lead exposure will depend heavily on our state partners, this work is a good context for us to articulate EPA's environmental justice approach. This enables EPA to continue to lead by example and to offer states tangible opportunities to work collaboratively with EPA on environmental justice.

There are a couple of areas where important actions pertinent to this topic are already underway:

EJ Mapping and Screening: The first element of EJ integration is identifying vulnerable communities in minority, low-income and tribal communities. For this reason, we have been working with Hayley on a project to better understand and coordinate lead

mapping approaches. This involves informational meetings on lead mapping and screening tools and approaches. We have already gotten great presentations from four regions (5, 3, 9 and 1). The next session will be presentations from OCSPP and ORD. There are many lessons, one of which is the importance of EJSCREEN. From the perspective of engaging states, having a set of data is a great place to start the conversation.

Engaging Partners for Identifying Areas and Priority Setting: Most regions have recommended a phased approach towards mapping and priority setting. Once initial mapping is done, it is critical to engage partners and stakeholders. We can then combine EPA's initial data with data from state and local agencies and with community knowledge. Most collaborative efforts result of these interactions. Region 1's experience strongly substantiates this lesson.

As part of its Regional Lead Strategy, Region 5 has established a framework and process to engage all its states in this manner. Their next discussion with their states will take place on July 17, and I have made sure that Hayley is able to listen in on the meeting. This is being done with the idea of building out the strategy for engaging states (collaborative action for results) that we developed for EJ 2020. My hope is that this work will form the initial basis for our work on states and cooperative federalism.

Other major elements of environmental justice integration in lead are: initiatives that produce tangible, measurable results and community-driven partnerships. We are exploring how these fit in the most appropriate ways at the right time. I expect that they will emerge organically just as the first two elements have. In addition, there are things Hayley and others are identifying from the Regional Lead Plans that can build on this framework that we can work into this starting point.

Let me know what you think.

Regards
Charles

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